

WHL
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R E M A R K S
ON SOME LATE
A N I M A D V E R S I O N S
OF A
L I C E N T I A T E
UPON THE
CONSTITUTION OF **P H Y S I C K :**

intended to correct the
MISAPPREHENSIONS OF THAT AUTHOR
with Regard to the
COLLEGE OF P H Y S I C I A N S
AND THE
ENGLISH U N I V E R S I T I E S

By a CANTAB K

Ἀδελφοὶ μὲν οἱ περὶ τοὺς θεοὺς ἀμνηστῶται.
ΞΕΝΟΦ. ANAB. B.

L O N D O N.

PRINTED for the Author, and Sold by J. DODSLEY, in *Pall Mall*,

Price One Shilling and Sixpence,

1768

3 21 5 16 Я В О А М И М А

UNITED STATES

oil & wax of bobbin

11-19-64

1959-1960

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The logo of the British Museum, featuring a crown and the words "BRITISH MUSEUM".

Reference made to the 1940 Census of the United States.

1914. 2025.

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TO
THE PARLIAMENT
OF
GREAT BRITAIN,

MY LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

SINCE it is become the Fashion of the Times to address YOUR LORDSHIPS and YOUR HONOURS, upon every Matter that is the Object either of Ambition or of Interest; you will not perhaps be more surpriz'd at the Intrusion of LICENTIATES, or CANTABS, than of WEAVERS, or of TAYLORS.

It seems "the Constitution of Physic in this Kingdom is a very bad one," † and like that of the State is to be reform'd by abolishing all Distinction and Subordination: and that the Power of examining Physicians, lodg'd with the Magistrates of the College, is a Grievance as intolerable to some, as the civil Power is to others -- in the hands of a RUSSEL or a PONTON, a CAPEL or an HARLEY. It seems, that NOW "the Constitution of the times and Complexion of the

† see Dedication to Animadversions

“ the Age oblige us to disregard the Precepts,
 “ reverse the Decrees, and repeal the Laws of
 “ our fore fathers ” and as “ great Revolutions
 “ from a fortuitous Concurrence of Circumstances
 “ have often been the ultimate Effect of a very tri-
 “ vial first Cause; ” * What Revolution can be
 beyond our Expectation now? when Circum-
 stances concur so fortuitously, --- when the Spi-
 rit of LEVELLING has inspir’d almost all orders
 of Men, --- and more especially, when you are
 call’d upon by a Personage, whose “ Fortune
 “ the public has been pleas’d to render consider-
 “ able, ” -- † and of such Importance that “ the Re-
 “ volutions of Kingdoms are beneath his Notice! ” ||

A Cantab, MY LORDS and GENTLEMEN, of no considerable
 fortune might tremble to approach you after an Address so
 important, did not the “ Complexion of the times ” make him
 audacious: and as that Address was written “ for your Infor-
 “ mation, without any Intention to warp your Judgement, ” §
 Motives not less innocent may, it is hop’d, plead with your
 LORDSHIPS, and YOUR HONOURS, in Excuse for the following
 Remarks, and entitle the Remarker even to the Thanks of
 that Personage, if they should have the good fortune to pro-
 mote his “ Intention not to warp your Judgement, ” by point-
 ing out some small Deviations in his Information.

* Animad. p. 1, † Ib. p. 29, || Ib. p. 2, § Dedicat.

REMARKS

ON

ANIMADVERSIONS, &c.

I SHALL not detain the Reader with any Conjectures relative to the *remote Cause*, whether trivial or important, from which, aided by "*the Complexion of the times*", some mighty Revolution may be expected by the Author of the *Animadversions*: it is not the Revolution of a State by which he is protected, and to his great Mortification, *govern'd*. The proximate cause however of the Pamphlet, seems to be VANITY, supported by the *considerable fortune* which the College have permitted a foreign graduate to make, and for which, as is not unusual with foreign Politeness, he very gratefully abuses the College, the Universities, and the Laws of the Country to which he

owes it. Hence the burthen of subordination is become so "*flagrant and intolerable.*" Hence the blushing retrospection of his own meanness, in submitting to the examination of those "*who possessed no shadow of claim to superiority,*" || (except what the LAW gives them over all Graduates, even of their own Universities)--Hence these pompous Animadversions, written with a spirit suited to "*the complexion of the times*",--that spirit of decency and liberty which animated the Assailants in *Warwick-lane*, and the *Borough of Southwark*.

The Constitution of Physic is said to be *a very bad one*, because the College of Physicians in London, like true-born Englishmen, exclude from the Government of it, all Foreigners and foreign Graduates:--an exclusion which *English Courts of Law* have hitherto justified. The College are, it is true, partial to the Universities of their own country: where the students are obliged to have some learning---where they are taught to examine every subject of their study, without regard to any authority, not supported by strict evidence of accurate experiment, and to receive no dictates as infallible from any Professor whatsoever:--where they are confined to some years study and some years search of improvement in other places,--and where they cannot be Doctors till eleven years are expired.

A riotous Assault and the Court of King's Bench not answering the desir'd Purpose, the College of Physicians and the English Universities, where the great Expence of Money and Time excludes Persons without Literature from
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the Profession, are to be the subject of Abuse: of which (exclusive of reprinted Laws) the Pamphlet upon which I am about to make some Remarks, principally consists.

For example---page 5, and 6

“ *With regard to the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge,*
 “ *and Dublin, they are at present by no means Schools of Phy-*
 “ *sic---the Lectures in every Branch of Medicine are infinitely*
 “ *too short and superficial, and delivered by persons, tho’ per-*
 “ *haps of sufficient Erudition, yet utterly incapable of illustra-*
 “ *ting their Theory by practical Observation. Many of the*
 “ *Essentials are not taught at all. No Patients, no clinical*
 “ *Lectures, which are the sine qua non of a medical Educa-*
 “ *tion.*”

Would not any Person who had never been an Academic, conclude, from the confidence of this paragraph, that the Author had studied at one or all of these Universities? If not,
 “ *Who can read this Declaration without being struck with*
 “ *its extreme arrogance and ignorance?*” (*)

What are these *Essentials not taught at all?* Lectures in every Branch of Medicine there are, it seems, tho’ infinitely too short and superficial, and delivered by *incapable* men of *Erudition*.--The *Essentials* therefore untaught must be in no branch of medicine. What a shame that Foreigners are not appointed to read lectures there, less short and more profound! “ *No patients,*”--happy places these! doubly happy that Foreign Doctors are not necessary to preserve their salubrity! “ *No clinical Lectures, which are the sine qua non*”---How should there be clinical Lectures where the professors

(*) *Animadversions*, page 11.

professors have no patients? *Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin* "are by no means schools of physic AT PRESENT"—but clinical lectures the grand arcanum with which our author is so inflated, "the *sine qua non* of medical Education," if read by foreigners, would make them so—not read by "men of *Erudition, but utterly incapable of illustrating their theory by practical observation.*" Perhaps the clinical lectures of that foreign professor only, who had the honour of having our author for his disciple, will do. In such case I see no remedy that can "save the Universities from total neglect and ruin,"† but an interposition of the legislature, and the appointment of our author to read clinical lectures successively in all the three.—Perhaps Dr. W---s, who is said to have read Lectures some time ago in London (where neither Patients or Doctors are wanting)—who perhaps still continues to read to *pupils without erudition*, and who must possess this arcanum of our author, may be prevailed on to be his *locum-tenens*, upon an emergency. Thus the Students of our Universities, without waste of eleven years, will possess, as GIL BLAS did, in less than so many months, the root, the marrow, the essence and quintessence, "the *essential and sine qua non* of medical education." If to these we can but add a few Foreigners to read Theological Lectures, our Universities may then hope to be upon Par with those of the Continent, or of Scotland, and our Divines as well as Physicians, be in equal Esteem for their Abilities, which have hitherto been held cheap in the opinion of all the world.

But

† Animadversions, page 8.

But to be serious: although assertions so illiberal, and so scandalously false, deserve not serious treatment. Is our author very sure of the incapacity of the Professors *at present* in these universities? Some of them, I venture to say, have travelled both to Leyden, Edinburgh, and Paris, and have attended *clinical Lectures*. Most of them have *patients*, and had them at Cambridge, even before the Hospital was finished,--and it may be presumed, are as capable of *illustrating theory by practical observation*, as our author himself; though they be persons of *erudition*. When our author puts his name to his information, their names may be given him.

Page 6. "So far from confining our medical students to any particular mode of education in our country," &c.

What can the author mean by this insinuation of confinement to mode? Would he have the Universities admit as students persons who have never been at school? Our author was not educated at an English University, therefore he is acquainted with confinements, of which persons who have been so, are totally ignorant. Medical students are *not* obliged to attend any lectures which do not tend to the accomplishment of a Physician. Had our author said to what the medical students there are really confined, the Purpose of his declamatory Information had been spoiled, and the partiality and patriotism of the College of Physicians appeared blameless, not to say praise-worthy: as the statutes of confinement tend more directly to secure the safety of the people, than those of any other Universities in Europe, not governed by the same.

The Students in English Universities are confined, it is true, to have a competent knowledge of the dead languages before their admission:--they are confined to be resident a few years--(not weeks): yet not more than are necessary to make them tolerable Logicians and Philosophers, Anatomists, Chemists and Botanists. They then may, and most of them do, travel to other Universities: and whether they do, or do not leave England, all of them, sooner or later, are Pupils in the London Hospitals:--not a single exception, I believe, where a disappointment of fortune did not confine more than the statutes or mode. After thus seeking knowledge for some years more, at the expiration of the sixth, they may take the degree of Batchelor in Physic, but cannot even then be licensed to take the care of LIVES till two or three years after; nor can they be Doctors till at least eleven years are expired. For the former of these degrees they publicly defend one Thesis; and for the second two. These are the medical confinements at English Universities, whose praise the reader may gather even from our author himself, "*The ancient Greeks,*" says he, "*were so perfectly sensible of the great difficulty of attaining a competent knowledge in Medicine, that a Physician was obliged to spend the greatest part of his life in study and experiment before he was allowed to practise. Let any one consult Boerhaave's method of studying Physic, and he will find that almost every branch of learning was thought by that great man to constitute a part of a Physician's erudition.*"† Bless us! every branch of learning! Erudition too, mentioned by a Licentiate without disrespect!

But

† Animadversions, page 23.

But our author is not *here* railing at English Professors, and English Graduates who have *erudition*, but at Apothecaries, whom he supposes to want it, and many of whom, he perhaps knows, have attended, or say they have attended, *clinical lectures* at Edinburgh, or elsewhere.

Ibid. "*The most desirable University is, therefore, that where most knowledge can be acquired.*"

Certainly,--if such be in our own country. If not, as the English Universities grant not degrees till after a number of years have been allowed, and sufficient for importing that knowledge, the students ought as Englishmen to take their honours and their right of practice in England,--if England is to be the scene of it. I wish our author had told us "*where most knowledge is to be acquired*": because I am humbly of opinion, that where there is no great difference of expence or time, the reputation of such places depends *somewhat* on the ability of the Professors:--and because I suspect from our author's acquired fortune, and from not suspecting him of having imitated the ancient Greeks, that the University which he honoured with his presence, has been many years in somewhat less repute.

Page 7. "*If medical knowledge were known to flourish even in China, a British subject educated in such university ought to meet every possible encouragement on his return.*"--"*True patriotism will consider the end rather than the means.*"

A Chinese Doctor, there is no doubt, would meet with this encouragement, especially if he wore the Chinese dress, and was properly furnished with the grimace and complacency, which

which have been found so useful, and which are among the "essentials not taught at all" in English universities. For "the conduct of the good people of England is no argument in favour of medical knowledge, because it is impossible for them to judge of his skill unless they themselves were Physicians."† Our author's evidence is proof enough—*experto crede*—these good people have "rendered his fortune considerable."*—It is to be hoped, however, that none of these good people of England, whose understandings are so egregiously ridiculed, are members in the parliament to which his Animadversions are addressed.

A Chinese Doctor ought, in truth, to have encouragement,—provided he is, like our author's inhabitant of Saturn, "infinitely more enlightened," than his brethren, and provided he could not have had knowledge from thence consistent with his education here: but not so, if an unbecoming disregard to his country, or the spirit of *Jacobitism* were the cause of his peregrination—not so, if he was infinitely less knowing, and infinitely less enlightened:—for this one reason, that patriotism considers not merely the end, but both the means and the end: and if the health of the people is as secure by patriotic means, or more so, such are the means to be adopted by English patriots.

Ibid. "How it happens that these seminaries are incapable of affording a sufficient medical education, &c. for it were enough to have proved the fact," &c.

Though the fact has not been proved, yet I will grant, they are incapable of affording a sufficient medical education: because

† Animadversions, page 18.

* Ibid, page 29.

because no University can--though clinical lectures were read there by our author, and however "*shining his abilities*"--unless he was *inspired* with infallibility. The Universities, though established "*when knowledge was at a low ebb*," suppose the impossibility; and therefore encourage the acquisition of knowledge from every quarter.

Ib. page 7 and 8. "*The fixed Salaries of the Professors is the chief obstacle--the present flourishing state of those Universities, where the emolument of Professors depends solely on the number of pupils, is a proof, &c.*"

How easy it is to be very florid and sagacious, when false facts are assumed or asserted! In "*clinical lectures*," and "*illustrating theory by practical observation*," it is hoped our author is more cautious and less decisive. Now at Cambridge the Regius Professor of Physic, has, it is true, the enormous sum of forty pounds per annum; and if our author can find the other Medical Professors there any fixed stipend at all, they will be much obliged to him. I may, I think, venture to assign another cause, more suited to Cambridge Logic, because not founded on false facts assumed as true; viz. The expence of money and time. The effect of this cause, a neglect of the English universities, is augmented by the want of power, or inactivity of the College of Physicians. In this age of softness, when magistrates can connive at insurrections,--can soothe, or give largesses to rioters,--and that even the spirit of an *Harley* cannot rouse them to the incivility of executing the laws of civil policy--I wonder less at the mildness and gentleness of the College, which, like

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others

other corporations, consists of various individuals, of various constitutions and sensations. Many of them are so fond of quiet, that they are apt to put off any exertion of authority, not practised daily, to their successors in office. Such men are but too apt to fear, that "*the complexion of the times*" may make such exertion improper, as they may be thought monopolizing, inquisitorial, or cruel; and are less apt to see the general good, when terrified on the one hand by ignorant clamour, and softened to pity for a few individuals on the other. Hence they have suffered not only many Doctors, who, tho' they may have attended *clinical lectures* in some university, have not spent *many years* in study and experiment, much less *the greatest part of their lives*,--to practise in the metropolis; but a swarm of Doctors, who never attended at any University at all.

In short, they have in truth suffered--*pudet hæc dici potuisse*---"*they have suffered consummate ignorance and quackery*" "*to ride in state coaches triumphant through the streets, to the*" "*eternal reproach of that body corporate.*" What Scotch, or what English trader would not be captivated with this glitter of triumphant Prosperity? Would not such a one think Physic a very gainful trade? Would he not, hearing too of nothing from this swarm but what it is their interest to proclaim, viz. "*the insufficiency of*" "*English universities,*"--Would he not, in conformity to commercial Wisdom, make his son a Doctor at the least expence of money, and chuse he should make his trade profitable seven or eight years at least earlier? His son's fortune might
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be rendered considerable by so many years the sooner, and there would always be reason to hope, that some few of this formidable body might so far ingratiate themselves with Nobles and Senators, that a new act of parliament might lift his son to the honor of presiding over the medical department. Is it then a wonder, that foreign universities are more flourishing by the number of medical pupils, than Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin, whose sons are debarred from profit so much longer?

Page 8. "*Nothing but a total Reformation can save them: (the Universities:) before long, the Universities themselves will solicit the attempt.*"

I hope they will not. I hope there are no Gentlemen in any of them, so little attentive to the public health, nor so much to their own emolument, from a greater number of pupils, as to think of reforming them by giving degrees earlier. Whenever they are reformed after the model of foreign or Scotch universities, I will give my vote, (if I should then have one) that our author, and all his "*eminent personages,*" and all the pupils, *now in high eminence*, instructed at the University of *St. Mary Axe*, * be admitted Fellows of
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* See the Advertisements, "To the Ingenious unemployed"---"To Gentlemen with only a small Portion of Classical Learning," &c. in public papers for several years past. Of one of them take this abbreviated specimen:—"Whereas it is the fate of many persons to be possessed of slender fortunes, who for want of being brought up to business, find themselves confined to live in a different manner to what they could desire, &c. a Physician of eminence, &c. qualifies the Person to be able to consult with the best Physicians, &c. and at the expiration of the time provides them with a *dipl. ma.* which entitles them to act in any part of the world.

"*Latin Consultations have not been used many years.*

"Any person, &c. will be informed of several *now in high eminence*, instructed, &c. in the same manner, &c." *Public Advertiser*, July 11, 1757.

of the College of Physicians, in preference to any of Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin. More and larger stipends for Professors,--or more Fellowships in every College, appropriated to the students in physic: (if that seems better:) together with a greater weight added to the interdiction of the College of Physicians, and more resolution in the officers of it, are all these universities want,--not an alteration in their statutes.

Our author now comes to the College of Physicians; of whose *right* to prefer English universities I pretend not to judge, but leave it to be determined, if it has not yet been done sufficiently, by the Courts of Law.

Ibid. page 9. "*The Royal Society, the Academy of Sciences, &c. know no such distinctions, &c.*"

What they do, relates no more to a College of Physicians, instituted to examine the qualifications of those who take charge of the lives of the King's subjects, than to a Court of Aldermen. Had he told us what the *Faculté de Médecine* at Paris do, it would have been to some purpose; but not the purpose of our author. Nor is his drawing of a planetary inhabitant more so, because copied from an ideal original, existing only in the brain of our Licencié, and very unlike the reality. He may fancy himself, "*infinitely more learned, and infinitely more enlightened than any earthly inhabitant*:"--he may fancy that there are "*many Licenciés who possess learning in a more eminent degree than ANY of those by whom they are examined,*"†--and that he is himself one of the number: But Oxonians, Cantabs, and Dublinians, are

† Animadversions, page 11.

are not so credulous as those "*good people of England*," by whom "*his fortune is rendered considerable*." The latter he has doubtless persuaded that he is one of "*the most eminent personages in the practice of medicine*," although "*excluded from the honours intended for men of shining abilities*,"*--and he has thanked them most gracefully for their credulity: but the former are mere infidels, till they have irresistible demonstration.

Page 12. "*Have they not permitted hundreds of Physicians to practise without licence all over the Kingdom?*"--and (he might have added,) in the metropolis also?--"*Have they not suffered professed quacks to practise without molestation? they have suffered consummate ignorance and quackery to ride in state coaches triumphant thro' the streets,*" &c.

They have--But let me ask, have not these quacks persuaded the "*good People of England*" that they possess practical knowledge not taught to men of *erudition* at English universities? Would not *the good people of England* join the quacks and our author in calling an interdiction (as he does an examination) arrogant, monopolizing, inquisitorial?

There is some reason to believe the power of the College is not what it ought to be. Their penalty of five pounds per month, at the time of their charter (perhaps an heavier penalty than twenty-five now) made their interdiction respectable, and even formidable to offenders:--but is at present trifling to a man who is said to receive 30l. per week from one shop at the west end of the town only--when there are

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* Animadversions, page 8, 9.

so many more shops in the metropolis, the kingdom, and the colonies. It is to be lamented therefore, that the penalty for illegal practice is not ten times five.

As to imprisonment,--would it suit "the complexion of the times"? Do not mountebanks, and such like vagrant practisers impose upon *the good people of England* unmolested (may I not say *tolerated*?) by the civil magistrates in all parts of the kingdom, and the environs even of London itself? If it be said, this neglect of the officers of Police does not excuse the College, whose more immediate duty it is to watch over the health of the King's subjects, and to punish every trespasser upon that health;--I must be forced to own it. If then the power of the college be sufficient to prevent this quackery, as I neither possess the mobbish restiveness which impels our Licenciate to call the executors of an Act of Parliament *Inquisitors*, nor so much indolence as to seek for quiet by connivance at public mischief; I wish he had employed his whole pamphlet on no other subject than this their cautious tameness, and that he had possessed the thunder of DEMOSTHENES: for surely the language of no other could express with sufficient force their disgraceful conduct.

Our author next bestows about a dozen pages on Apothecaries who visit and direct medicines.

Page 17. "If a Physician be intruded upon him (the Apothecary) "it is always in his power to disappoint his (the Physician's) "expectation, by omitting or substituting one "ingredient for another: this were indeed consummate villainy, but there are rascals," &c.

Rascals

Rascals capable of this consummate villainy there certainly are, and I should have been very much concerned for the honor of the College, had it been made appear that their Censors have a power to punish them: as undoubted proofs of this villainy may be produced, and perhaps even within the bills of mortality. Certainly no punishment can be too severe, and I wish our author had pointed out how it might be obtained. If the College Censors have not this power, it is high time they had.

Page 24. "*This neglect to confine Apothecaries within their sphere, is the more unpardonable, as the means are obvious-- the most effectual would be not to suffer any of THEIR prescriptions to be made up by a visiting Apothecary.*"

This is a proposal so very prudent, that it is hoped our author will prevail upon his brethren the Licentiates, to set the College an example so disinterested. This would shame the Fellows most amazingly, and confine Apothecaries to their counters, where he so earnestly wishes them. If he cannot prevail so far, he may at least set the example himself,-- especially now *his fortune is rendered considerable*: and more especially, since it is highly improbable that any Apothecary, "in whose power it generally is to introduce his favoured Physician into the families he attends" * was ever permitted, by a spirit so exalted, to assist in rendering it so. But in the vehemence of his zeal, to prevent Apothecaries practising, has he not forgot, what was observed above, that many of them talk of having attended *clinical lectures*? Has he not forgot, that some of them are Doctors, who have given

proof.

* Animadversions, page 17.

proof of ability, at least not inferior to his own? and that all of them may be Doctors in a few months, by signifying their inclinations to *H. W--s*, † M. D. and be provided with a diploma, entitling them to act in any part of the world? Has he not forgot that some of them are Licenciates?—but perhaps not being in the List of Window-breakers, he may not rank them with the “most eminent personages in the practice of medicine, tho’ excluded from the honors which were certainly intended for men of shining abilities:” and which honors if they cannot obtain by the liberal method of assault, they may however hope to obtain by this very liberal address to the legislature.

Suppose our author’s liberal language and reasoning with Apothecaries were applied to Licenciates—“As to that consequential body of Literati § called” LICENCIATES, altho’ they may suppose themselves possessed of the most “shining abilities”; or that they be “the most eminent personages in the practice of Medicine,” because “the public has been pleased to render” their “fortune considerable:”—yet “the conduct of the good people of England is no argument in favour of their medical knowledge, because it is impossible for them to judge, unless they themselves were Physicians”. Although many of them may boast of “possessing more learning than any of those by whom they are examined;” yet have not many of them been made Doctors without “sufficient residence” at an university,—most of

† A Name inserted at length in some Addresses to the good people of England, of a later date than that recited in a preceding note.

§ Animadversions, page. 12.

of them without any residence at all? Have not some been made such by the cantonment of a regiment to which they belonged near an university in FLANDERS or in SCOTLAND,--some by a letter, without quitting their habitations? In short, have any of them, like the ancient Greeks, "spent the greatest part of their lives in study and experiment before they practised?" If it be urged, "that many of them from their extensive practice must necessarily have gained great experience; to this I answer, that experience without theory, and not founded on the experience of former ages, will produce no better qualification than that of an old nurse."* For "those who by long study, &c. have become well acquainted with Physic, know it to be so extensive, &c. the diseases so wonderfully numerous, and their species distinguished by such a variety of minute circumstances, that the ablest Physician, with his experience assisted by that of all who have gone before him, finds himself frequently in doubt, &c. † The ancient Greeks were so sensible of the great difficulty," &c. "Can it then be matter of surprise, that" the Censors of the College, "who view the Art of Medicine in its full extent, should behold with indignation, a most illiberal set of people, audaciously complaining of insult from an examination, and *audaciously* aiming at authority "with the same confidence as if they were possessed of all the advantages that a learned education could supply." ‡ Since then most of them have wanted to be honoured and to be rich before they were learned,--

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* Animadversions, page 24. † Ibid. p. 22. ‡ Ibid. p. 23.

since by the confession of one of this " consequential body of
 " men, * Doctors without residence ought to be absolutely
 " interdicted;" † --since they have reflected indecently on the
 laws of this country, and cannot agree among themselves
 which University, *Foreign* or *Scotch* ought to be preferred; --
 the college prudently affronts none by excluding the Gra-
 duates of them all from offices of authority. Suppose, I say,
 such language were to be applied to Licenciates, --would not
 " this consequential body of men be highly offended", and
 particularly our author, with " expressions so unreserved?"
 But to return to the College.

Page 26.. "*They persecute a man whom they know to have
 " had a regular and expensive education, and to whom fifty
 " pounds at his first setting out in life may be no inconsiderable
 " sum"*", &c.

How should they know the regularity of a man's educa-
 tion, till he has been examined, unless it be advertised? As
 to expence, they may suppose a regular education requires
 so many fifties, that very few would ramble abroad, who
 could afford to have a sufficient education; and that an en-
 thusiastic thirst of medical knowledge is not so commonly the
 motive as the saving of expence and time. The mention of
 the expence of a Licence twice in this page and again in
 page 29, shews our author's motive. When they meet with
 a foreign Doctor fond of Medicine for it's own sake, or the
 pleasure of doing good only, they may, and will, I doubt
 not, abate somewhat of the price: 'till then no mischief can
 happen,

* Animadversions, page 22.

† Ibid. p. 27.

happen, if they make it double the usual sum, but an encouragement of domestic education.

Our author, however, has a mind to insinuate the interested view of the College in this "exorbitant sum": forgetting that "they have permitted hundreds of physicians in all parts of the kingdom to practise without licence, tho' their power extends equally to all parts of the kingdom;" from whom hundreds of *exorbitant sums*, if they pleased, might be gained. * A blameable neglect this of their own interest, and a much more blameable neglect of an interest more general and more important. But "they persecute a man," it seems, "at his first setting out in life" -- Witness, ye unlicensed Doctors, almost without number, now practising daily in the capital!

Surely, if ever a Physician is examined at all, it ought to be "at his first setting out," that the LIVES of *the good people of England* may not be exposed, during many successive years, or till their credulity has rendered fifty pounds really *inconsiderable*: and of such early persecution I wish there were more examples. Pity it is, our author did not mention how soon after *his first setting out* he suffered persecution. Perhaps he suppressed his own example for fear of exposing the indolence of the College Officers at that time; and probably they have reason to thank him for the suppression.

Page 27. "With regard to those who in consequence of sufficient residence at a creditable university, &c. have obtained a diploma, AUTHORISING THEM TO PRACTISE IN ANY PART OF

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* Animadversions, page 42.

"THE WORLD, a re-examination by any College must be deemed
 "highly insulting."

Doubtless:--and they have the insolence to determine this
sufficient residence to be that appointed by statutes of English
 universities, and then to examine the graduates of those very
 universities! and what is yet more insolent, re-examine those
 whose diplomas the Advertisement says, *entitle them to act in*
any part of the world!

Page 28. "I have wondered how the President, &c. of a
 "PRIVATE College of Physicians could possibly arrogate to them-
 "selves the unjustifiable power of calling to examination, like
 "school-boys, persons whose education they knew to be superior,"
 &c.

It is verily and indeed wonderful!

Ibid. "By what infatuation then have these fellows been led
 "to insult their equals," &c.

This, with a great deal more raving about insult and ar-
 rogance, superiority and equality, catechism, inquisition,
 &c. makes me wish I had enquired after the author, ere I had
 set pen to paper, lest I should have been at the trouble of
 remarking upon a distempered inhabitant of Moorfields, as
 such princely people hold every want of deference to their
 rank, an insult unpardonable. Can any one guess what is
 meant by a *private* College of Physicians? Or can it be con-
 ceived, that a man, *Mentis compos*, should forget that the
 Institution of the College Officers by Parliament, requires
 them to examine every Practitioner within the Bills of Mor-
 tality?

Page 29. " *I wish I had gone to practise at the Cape of good-hope, rather than have submitted to have stoop'd so far beneath the Dignity of my Rank, as to answer their IMPERTINENT Questions* " &c.

This is possible: but perhaps there was at that time some small Doubt, whether the HOGAN-MOGANS at the Cape were so likely to render a fortune considerable, as the good People of England.

Page 30. " *If it should appear the College have made a practise &c. of obliging regular Doctors to submit to an ignominious Examination &c. if these facts be deemed Acts of Oppression, can it be doubted the Complainants wou'd not be redress'd?* "

It cannot be doubted:— IF —

Page 30, 31 " *Suppose a Doctor before the President &c. to be examin'd were to address them—Gentlemen—consistent with my own Dignity I can't, possibly submit to answer any Questions only to satisfy you of my medical Abilities, of which this Diploma in my hand, with this Thesis which I have publicly defended, are undoubted Testimonies* " &c.

Pardon me most noble Doctor:— that *Diploma* in your hand with that *Thesis* are not *undoubted Testimonies*. Was I president or Censor, I shou'd doubt. Diplomas are sold—and Theses are abroad so rarely the Composition of the Person who *publicly defends* them, that the foreign Reviewers universally cite the *Theses* for Degrees, as the Works of the Professors, during whose Presidency they were defended. Thus, a Thesis entitled *a Dissertation on mineral Waters under the Presidency of HOFFMAN, publicly defended by A. B.* wou'd be supposed by ev'ry Person acquainted with these Matters to be the Work of HOFFMAN:— unless there was a better Reason for thinking otherwise, than *A. B's.* publicly defending it.

Page 31, 32. " *Surely I need not inform you that having obtain'd the Degree of Doctor— I am in Possession of the highest Honour that Physic can confer &c. They wou'd call him an impertinent fellow* " &c. &c.

And every impartial Person wou'd deem the Appellation just. Suppose a Coal-heaver—start not gentle Reader!—Suppose a Coal-heaver before the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen to be examin'd were to address them in the same or similar Language—“*Gentlemen, I have obey'd your Summons notwithstanding the ungentle Manner in which it was express'd.*” * “*Surely I need not inform you that being*” a free-born Englishman “*I am in possession of the highest Honour that*” Birth “*can confer: there can be no reason then for obliging me to submit to any Examination, it being a known Maxim, that ALL Examinations are made with an Intention of advancing the Person Examined*” &c. &c. † Shall I carry this Representation farther? I cannot—nor will I Inquire about his exotic Maxim: as an advancement (*au Gibet*) is sometimes the Consequence, tho' not the Intention of ALL Examinations, even by *English* Magistrates. The Reader has doubtless been already hurt as much as my self:—and yet when the *Hauteur* and Insolence of the Animadverter's Suppositions here and page 9 are consider'd;—when he forgets that the president and Censors are Magistrates entrusted with the Execution of English Laws,—I hope to be pardonable. Perhaps I even ought not to be “*sorry for the Opportunity of vindicating the honour of so respectable a Body of Men against the Outrages of improper*” ‡ and ungentlemanly PRIDE, and may desire my Readers “*not to let this be condemn'd as too ludicrous a Representation. The Colouring tho' somewhat strong, is yet real, and a pertinent Illustration of the Arguments advanc'd to prove*” that the Complaint of our Licentiate “*against the London College, is built on no other Basis,*” § than his own ridiculous VANITY.

Page 33. “*Examinations are ineffectual because the Questions are generally such as any young Student may easily answer &c.*”

εὐφημία!—Very ill indeed was our Author us'd by this “*high Court of Inquisition when equal in Rank to the highest of his Inquisitors!*”

Had

* Animad. p. 30. † Ibid. p. 31. ‡ Ibid. § Ibid. p. 9, 10.

Had they not designedly, and maliciously, asked Questions so easily answer'd, he had appear'd a Prodigy of a Doctor, and they must long ago have been forc'd to intreat his doing *them* the Honour to accept the President's Chair. Hinc illæ Lachrymæ!— hence the Recollection of that ignominious Examination may well excite Blushes, and even Raving! Learn hence, ye present and future Censors, not to suppose a *Foreign Graduate* can be in Awe, or Confusion at the Solemnity of your Presence,— and do not hereafter, for fear of extinguishing the Lustre of *shining Abilities*, examine with a Candour so mortifying to foreign Education! Beware lest some Theses and Diplomas shou'd travel to the *Cape* to your eternal Mortification and Reproach!

Page 34. “ *Let him continue a Licentiate 4 Years— his fees fix'd at half price, and engag'd not to refuse attending on such moderate Terms— this wou'd give Opportunity of Practise to young Physicians: The 4 years expir'd, let him be a fellow* ” This plan of our Author seems a tacit Confession that *Diplomas* and *Theses publicly defended* are not undoubted Testimonies of sufficient medical Knowledge; else why this 4 years Experience upon the lower Class of People? It becomes not a Cantab to dictate to the College: but I may with our Authors Leave, propose my Opinion viz. that it may be as proper to summon every Doctor even at his first setting out, to Examination. If he appears not to have sufficient Knowledge, oblige him to spend 4 years in Attendance and Observation at one of the London Hospitals— or more if his Residence has not been sufficient, and at a reputable University. Then let him be examin'd again, (not by proposing *Questions easily answer'd*) and if he appears to have apply'd diligently, licenced: paying the fees, (especially if more enlighten'd than his earthly Brethren,) when the Sum is less considerable to him. This wou'd prevent People rambling abroad to be Doctors before they are of Age, and to have the privilege of making a fortune, before they deserve

deserve it: This would make the English Universities flourish, more than a Reformation of Statutes, so much prated of, and so little necessary.

Page 35. *The health of the People is so far from being beneath the consideration of Legislature" &c!*

True: and therefore the Legislature has delegated certain Powers to the Officers of the College, for the Preservation of the Public Health. If these Powers are sufficient, I shall be sorry for having attempted to take off the Weight of the Animadverters Severity: if they are not, it is to be hop'd the Legislature will strengthen or enlarge them.

Page 35, 36 " *I am not actuated by Resentment against any particular Fellow*" nor is the Remarker against any particular Licenciante: " *I respect many of them for their Learning and medical Abilities;*" how condescending! I will not be outdone— I respect some Licenciates who have even been Apothecaries: " *but I condemn their Institution as illiberal and oppressive:*" Very justly no doubt—the easy Questions of these Inquisitors have made the Author's Fortune, but not the Author PRESIDENT of the INQUISITION: " *and I blame their neglect of the most salutary of their Laws.*" Do so with all my Heart: I am ready to join the Outcry: but not to break their Windows— especially for not neglecting. They, you say, have been " *of late, particularly attentive to young Physicians.*"* Better late than never: Who knows but their Zeal may gather Strength as it proceeds, and extend to ev'ry Impediment of the public Health! I am rather inclin'd to congratulate them on having began to shake off their lethargic Indolence: but if indiscriminate Abuse by shewing them that their habitual meekness, will not secure their quiet, be a more effectual means of rousing them to hazard a little of that Quiet, by a more vigorous Exertion of what Power they have; I care not how much our Authors Abilities shine in abusing them.

Page 35. " *Patriotism is a word so often prostituted &c. nevertheless if it appears from my Age and Situation, that I cannot have any other End in View*" &c.

If

* Anim. p. 12.

If this writer, whom I do not know, chose his Age, his Situation, and his Motives should not be mistaken, why not prefix his Name to his *Information*? The good of his Country is, to be sure, very much affected by the most insulting Examination, and in his Exclusion from the president's Office. Perhaps he may think his Motive patriotic—but perhaps he may mistake his Motive, for more Reasons than his Age. If to rail at the Universities of his own Country, which he has misrepresented, as confining their *Students in physic* to a certain Mode, and discouraging the search of Knowledge in other places—the very contrary of which is the truth;—if to proclaim the foreign Graduates superior to ANY of his own Country, tho' the latter have generally studied abroad as long as himself, join'd to their Education here;—if to represent the College Officers as insulting himself and Brethren by an Examination, to which they call the Graduates of their own Country,—and which Examination is a Security against Insufficiency, super-added to the great Number of preparatory Years;—if to stigmatize them as illiberal, oppressive and inquisitorial, for an Examination which is authoriz'd by repeated Acts of Parliament,—when their principal fault is being too candid, and too cautious of maintaining their just Rights;—if this be Patriotism;—then is our Author's Information liberal and pertinent;—then is our Author a Patriot, and the Writer of these Remarks most egregiously deceiv'd.

H

F I N I S.

if this writer, whom I do not know, wrote this paper, his situation, and
his motives should not be mistaken, why not speak his name to his
formation? The good of his Country is, to be sure, very much affected by
the most interesting Examination, and in his Election from the President's
Office. Perhaps he may think his Motive patriotic—but perhaps he may
mistake his Motive, for more than his Age. It is not at the
University of his own Country, which he has anticipated, as can
being their Masters in physics, a certain Method, and discovering the search
of Knowledge in other places—the very contrary of which is a truth—
it is to produce the same in other parts of the world, as long as it is
to the University, which is to be the College Officers as in the
to their Examination, and to the College Officers as in the
ing in the world, and to the College Officers as in the
classes of their own country, and to the College Officers as in the
being in the world, and to the College Officers as in the
it is to distinguish them as in the world, and to the College Officers as in the
examination which is to be the College Officers as in the
their principal task is to be the College Officers as in the
their full Rights;—it is to be the College Officers as in the
nation liberal and permanent—this is the College Officers as in the
Writer of these Remarks, and to the College Officers as in the

